

**REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS:
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES (REP)
EPA-R4-OPM-06-02**

OVERVIEW

FEDERAL AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)
REGION 4

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TITLE: Regional Environmental Priorities (REP)

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE/ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: EPA-R4-OPM-06-02

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE (CFDA) NUMBERS, TITLES,
AND STATUTORY AUTHORITIES*:**

- 66.034 -- Air Quality: Surveys, studies, investigations, demonstrations and special purpose activities, *Section 103, Clean Air Act*
- 66.424 -- Source Water Protection: Surveys, Studies, Demonstrations and Special Purpose, *Section 1442, Safe Drinking Water Act*
- 66.436 Water Quality and Watershed Management: Surveys, studies and investigation Grants & Cooperative Agreements, *Section 104(b)(3), Clean Water Act*
- 66.475 -- Gulf of Mexico Program, *Section 104(b)(3), Clean Water Act*
- 66.609 -- Children's Health Protection, *multiple statutory authorities*

**See chart on pages 25-26 for more information on CFDA and Statutory Authorities.*

CLOSING DATE: November 17, 2006, 4:00 p.m. EST. Proposals may be submitted electronically through <https://www.grants.gov> or by hardcopy via U.S. Postal Service or commercial delivery sent to Betty Winter, EPA Region 4 RGI Coordinator, 61 Forsyth Street, SW, 9th floor mail room, Atlanta, GA 30303. No late proposals will be accepted. Selected recipients will be given a time table and instructions for submission of complete applications when proposals are selected for further consideration for final awards. Detailed proposal submission requirements are found in Section IV below.

AWARD DATE: Expected award date is June 15, 2007.

ANNOUNCEMENT MODIFICATIONS: EPA reserves the right to amend this solicitation as deemed necessary. Amendments could be administrative in nature (e.g., change of dates or location), technical, (e.g., change in requirements) or changes which affect the anticipated funding. If this solicitation is amended, EPA will post the amended solicitation at the same location as this announcement.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits proposals for financial assistance to eligible entities through EPA Region 4's Regional Environmental Priorities (REP) focus. The goal for this funding to external organizations is to help the Region, states, local governments, and communities address priority areas and issues, as identified in this solicitation, because of their complexity, extent, threat to ecosystems or human health, and/or because of the significant need to protect, improve or restore specific environments. EPA will not fund routine implementation projects under this solicitation, but may award funds for demonstrations of new or innovative technologies, tools, or approaches to accomplish the funding goals. Because total funding for this solicitation is limited, Region 4 strongly encourages applicants to request funding for projects that identify opportunities for collaboration and leveraging of other funding sources.

FUNDING/AWARDS: The total estimated funding expected to be available under this competitive opportunity is approximately \$400,000. EPA anticipates award of approximately 6 to 9 grants or cooperative agreements resulting from this announcement, subject to availability of funds and the quality of applications received. The average range of awards will be between \$15,000 and \$100,000, depending on the selected projects. This solicitation is intended to fund projects to be performed in as many of the eight regional states and priority areas as possible.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS*: Assistance under this announcement is accessible to a wide range of applicants as shown below:

- States and territories and possessions of the United States and government agencies
- Federally-Recognized Indian Tribes
- State, local, county, city or township government agencies
- Interstate government agencies
- Public and private universities and colleges
- Nonprofit organizations having a 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code

**See chart on pages 25-26 for more information on CFDA and Statutory Authorities.*

EPA REGION 4 CONTACT INFORMATION: Betty Winter, RGI Coordinator, EPA Region 4, 61 Forsyth ST, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303, Phone 1-800-241-1754 or 404-562-8279, Fax 404-562-8269, e-mail winter.betty@epa.gov, TTY 404-562-8339.

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Chart on CFDA's, Statutory Authority, Eligible Activities and Recipients
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Section I - Funding Opportunity Description.

A. Background.

For 2006-2007 funding, EPA Region 4 is soliciting proposals for projects that will address the regional and state strategic environmental priorities, as identified in this solicitation. Region 4 will provide financial assistance for projects selected under this solicitation through grants or cooperative agreements. These projects will protect human health or protect, improve, or restore community and ecosystem health across the Southeast by bridging gaps between national funding and regional environmental programs or allow for the demonstration of innovative tools, technologies, or approaches to environmental concerns and challenges. The Region's long term goal in directing this funding to external groups is to help the Region, states, local governments, and communities address priority areas and issues that are complex, widespread, a significant threat to ecosystems and communities and human health, and/or provide for protection or restoration of the environment.

Because total funding for this solicitation is limited, Region 4 strongly encourages applicants to request funding for projects that identify opportunities for collaboration and leveraging of other funding sources. All selected projects will focus on specific, measurable environmental or human health outcomes. The performance measures should be specific, quantitative and/or qualitative related to project objectives, outputs, and outcomes. This funding cannot be used for routine implementation but can be awarded to demonstrations or pilots of innovative technologies, tools, or approaches to restoring community health or improving the environment.

The Regional Environmental Priorities (REP) for FY 2006/2007 funding are 1) implementing sustainable agricultural practices; 2) reducing exposure to ozone and particulate matter; 3) protecting children's health; 4) improving water quality; 5) promoting environmental excellence; and 6) encouraging environmentally sustainable energy use and energy conservation. Awards made under this solicitation must relate directly to one or more of these priorities. See Section III D on eligibility requirements for more information on each Region 4 priority.

This is the second Region 4 Environmental Priorities competition. For the 2005/2006 solicitation, the Region received 75 proposals totaling \$4,955,314. The Region selected 6 projects for total funding of \$355,502. Therefore, the 2006/2007 solicitation is anticipated to be highly competitive. Award of funding through this year's competition is not a guarantee of future funding. Funds for each fiscal year will be competed separately.

Region 4 selected the following projects for funding under the 2005/2006 solicitation:

- Remediation of Contaminants in Alabama K-12 School Environments (Waste Reduction Technology Transfer Foundation)

- Energy and Bio-oil Production from Poultry Litter using Fractionation and Pyrolysis Demonstration Project (University of Georgia)
- Creating a Regional Smart Growth Training Network (Southeast Watershed Forum)
- Evaluation of Potential Alternative Approaches to Stream Buffers for Water Quality Protection (Georgia Department of Natural Resources)
- Improving Air Quality Public Awareness Campaign to address Particulate Matter and Ozone (Greenville County, South Carolina)
- Protection of Children and Older Adults from Health Risks in Homes and on Tribal Lands (Seminole Tribe of Florida)

B. Linkage of Anticipated REP Projects to Strategic Plan and Expected Outputs and Environmental Outcomes

EPA Region 4's environmental priorities directly support goals and objectives identified in EPA's Strategic Plan's (<http://www.epa.gov/ocfopage/plan/plan.htm>). Projects funded under this announcement support Clean Air (Goal 1), particularly Objective 1 on Healthier Outdoor Air and Objective 2 on Healthier Indoor Air; Clean Water (Goal 2), Sub-Objectives 2.1.1 Watershed Management; Healthy Communities and Ecosystems (Goal 4), particularly Objective 4.2; Compliance and Environmental Stewardship (Goal 5), particularly Objective 5.2, Improve Environmental Performance Through Pollution Prevention and Innovation; and several cross-goal strategies. In addition, REP funding is intended to encourage the EPA cross-cutting initiatives of collaboration and stewardship. The strategic goal and objective supported by each award will be determined based on the project. The chart on pages 25 and 26 provides additional information on specific goals related to each CFDA.

C. Examples of Project Outputs and Environmental Outcomes

In compliance with EPA Order 5700.7 on environmental results, all selected projects must address outputs and outcomes and how these will be tracked and measured. "Outputs" refers to environmental activities and work products that contribute to producing environmental outcomes. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the funding period. "Outcomes" refer to the results, effects, or consequences that will occur from carrying out environmental activities. Outcomes may be environmental, health-related, behavioral, or programmatic in nature but must be quantitative. All outcomes may not be achieved during the project period because some are intermediate and some are longer term. Intermediate outcomes are those that aid the accomplishment of end outcomes, which are the desired end or ultimate results of a project or program. Proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must identify and describe outputs and both intermediate and end outcomes, to the extent applicable to the project. Examples of expected appropriate outputs and outcomes are provided below for each regional environmental priority for which an award might be made.

Note: EPA recognizes that for many REP projects, measurable outcomes may take longer than the projected two-year project period.

Examples of anticipated outputs for sustainable agriculture projects to be awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- educational training or outreach materials for growers or producers
- demonstrations or pilots of low-cost technologies
- demonstration project on applicability or effectiveness of a technique, technology or tool
- templates or start-up kits for environmental management systems
- final project report outlining methods, tools, techniques, strategies, and/or results of demonstration projects
- seminars or on-site field training

Examples of anticipated outcomes for sustainable agriculture projects to be awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- increased number of growers or producers using methods, tools, techniques, strategies,
- quantitative and qualitative benefits to human health or the environment
- partnerships formed to transfer technologies or implement programs or to leverage funds from other sources for such transfer or implementation

Anticipated outputs for projects reducing exposure to ozone and particulate matter awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- promotion and establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships/collaborations
- identification of local areas and sources posing the highest risk for affected populations
- educational, training, or outreach materials for affected populations
- development of state or local capacities to address issues associated with exposure to ozone or particulate matter
- development of methods to measure results

Anticipated outcomes for projects reducing exposure to ozone and particulate matter awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- quantification of risks reduced through collaborative action at the local level
- development of a comprehensive understanding of sources of risk and setting priorities for effective action

Examples of outputs for projects protecting children's health awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- final project report that documents activities and quantifies results
- educational, training, or outreach materials
- promotion and establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships/collaborations
- identification of local areas and sources posing the highest health risks for children

Examples of outcomes for projects protecting children's health awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- reduction in chronic health disorders, illness, learning disabilities, or mortality
- improvements in physical, behavioral, or social functioning
- reduction in environmental health or safety risks affecting children
- reduction in children's exposure to environmental contaminants

Examples of outputs for projects improving water quality awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- comprehensive characterization of sources and causes of water quality impairment within a watershed
- development of a restoration plan for an impaired watershed
- enhanced multi-sector partnerships capable of leveraging resources from multiple sources to implement planned restoration activities
- final project report outlining methods, tools, techniques, strategies, and/or results of demonstration projects
- seminars or on-site field training

Examples of outcomes for projects improving water quality awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- quantitative or qualitative improvements in riparian and in-stream physical, chemical, or biological health
- miles of stream channel restored, miles of riparian vegetative buffer, or pounds of pollutant loading reduced
- quantitative improvements in water quality as measured by pre- and post-project monitoring of water chemistry, physical habitat or biological indicators.

Examples of outputs for projects promoting environmental excellence awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- identification and development of beyond-compliance strategies or approaches
- transfer of beyond-compliance strategies or approaches
- templates or start-up kits for environmental management systems
- seminars or sector-based meetings focusing on improving environmental performance
- creating partnerships and collaborations for improving environmental performance•

Examples of outcomes for projects promoting environmental excellence awarded under this announcement include but are not limited to:

- reductions in water and/or energy use, waste generated or disposed, or air emissions
- increases in waste material recycled or reclaimed
- increases in use of reclaimed materials
- increases in acres of land protected or conserved

Examples of outputs for projects encouraging environmentally sustainable energy use and energy conservation awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- final project report outlining methods, tools, techniques, strategies, and/or results of demonstration projects
- educational, training, or outreach materials
- promotion and establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships/collaborations
- assessments of opportunities for energy conservation
- outreach or training on technologies or tools

Examples of outcome-based metrics for projects encouraging environmentally sustainable energy use and energy conservation awarded under this announcement include, but are not limited to:

- pounds of pollution reduced by technology and/or tools
- BTUs of energy conserved by technology and/or tools
- gallons of water saved by technology and/or tools
- dollars saved through technology and/or tools

Consistent with EPA Order 5700.7, each selected project work plan must specify well-defined outputs and outcomes.

D. Applicable Statutory Authority and Corresponding Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers.

The REP assistance agreements will use multiple statutory authorities depending on the nature of the selected projects. EPA will determine the appropriate CFDA number and statutory authority for each successful proposal. Successful applicants will ensure that the final application is consistent with the appropriate statutory authority and CFDA. The statutory authorities and CFDA numbers that may apply are listed below. The chart on pages 25 and 26 of this announcement contains relevant information on each CFDA and the related authorities. Additional information on the CFDA can be found online by searching the EPA portion at <http://www.gsa.gov/fdac>.

1. Clean Air Act, Section 103, CFDA 66.034 for related studies, investigations, and demonstration projects on air quality or community air

toxics; CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults; CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance.

2. Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3), CFDA 66.436 for related surveys, studies, investigations, demonstrations, and training; CFDA 66.475 for innovative approaches to improving water quality in the Gulf of Mexico; CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults; CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance.

3. Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442, CFDA 66.424 for related studies and demonstration projects; CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults; CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance and Section 1433.

4. Solid Waste Disposal Act, Section 8001, CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults and CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance.

5. Toxic Substances Control Act, Sections 10(a), CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults; CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance.

6. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, Section 20, CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults and CFDA 66.717 for source reduction assistance.

7. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, Sections 104/311, CFDA 66.609 for protection of health in children and older adults.

Section II - Award Information.

A. Available Funding.

The total estimated funding expected to be available for awards under this competitive opportunity is approximately \$400,000. EPA Region 4 reserves the right to reject all proposals if none meet the criteria satisfactorily and make no awards under this solicitation. Should additional funding become available, the Agency may, in accordance with Agency policy and the final selection process, make additional awards under this announcement for up to four months from the date of the original selections, without further notice or competition.

B. Type of Awards.

Assistance may be available through a grant or a cooperative agreement. A cooperative agreement will be used only if a selected project requires substantial involvement, participation, or collaboration between EPA Region 4 and the recipient during the performance of the project

work plan. The substantial involvement required might be joint participation on conferences or other events, collaboration on specific activities under the award as requested by the recipient, or specific EPA technical assistance, as requested by the recipient. If applicable, EPA involvement will be formally documented in the work plan and a condition will be added in the award agreement. EPA Region 4 will monitor the recipient's performance on both grants and cooperative agreements to ensure accountability of Federal funding, outcomes, and environmental results.

C. Number of Assistance Agreements and Funding Range Anticipated.

The number of awards expected to be made under this solicitation will depend on individual project costs, but it is estimated that between approximately six and nine awards will be made under this announcement, with an estimated average award range between \$15,000 and \$100,000. All awards are subject to the availability of funds and the quality and nature of the proposals submitted.

D. Project Period for Awards Resulting from this Solicitation.

The estimated project period for awards resulting from this solicitation is June 15, 2007 through June 14, 2008 or 2009. All projects must be completed within the negotiated project performance period of 12 to 24 months, as appropriate to the project. Performance periods will not exceed two years.

E. Pre-Proposal Assistance and Subsequent Communication.

- In accordance with EPA's Assistance Agreement Competition Policy (EPA Order 5700.5A1), EPA staff will not meet with individual applicants to discuss draft proposals, provide informal comments on draft proposals, or provide advice to applicants on how to respond to ranking criteria. However EPA will respond to questions **in writing from individual applicants or via e-mail** at winter.betty@epa.gov or fax at (404) 562-8269 regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the proposal, and requests for clarification about the announcement prior to November 17, 2006.
- EPA will post responses on the EPA Region 4 website on the Grants webpage with the original announcement at <http://www.epa.gov/region4/financial/grants.html> when responses are provided to individuals.
- EPA reserves the right to amend this solicitation as deemed necessary. Amendments could be administrative in nature (e.g., change of dates), technical (change in requirements) or changes which affect the anticipated funding. If this need occurs, EPA will post the amendment at <http://www.grants.gov> and at www.epa.gov/region4.

F. Partial Funding.

EPA Region 4 reserves the right to partially fund proposals by funding discrete activities, portions, or phases of the proposed project. If EPA Region 4 partially funds a

proposal/application, it will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which the proposal, or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award, and that maintains the integrity of the competition and the evaluation/selection process.

Section III - Eligibility Information.

A. Eligible Applicants.

Entities eligible to receive EPA funding under this announcement vary according to the requirements of each grant program and CFDA number. The chart on pages 25 and 26 specifies eligible applicants for each of the funding programs and CFDA numbers included in this solicitation. Note that for most EPA assistance programs, other federal agencies, private individuals, and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply directly to EPA for federal assistance.

Note: Nonprofit organizations having status under 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are not eligible to apply for this funding opportunity.

B. Projects and Activities Eligible for Funding.

Proposed projects submitted for consideration under this announcement must address at least one of the environmental priorities discussed under Section III.D below and identified in Section I.A above. Proposed projects that do not address at least one of the Region 4 environmental priorities for 2006-2007 and at least two of the strategic approaches listed in Section III.D will not be considered for funding under this announcement. EPA will notify submitters within 15 days of the ineligible determination.

Routine implementation proposals without innovative or demonstration elements will not be funded under this announcement. A demonstration must involve new or experimental technologies, methods, or approaches, where the results of the project will be disseminated so that others can benefit from the knowledge gained in the demonstration project. A project that is accomplished through the performance of routine, traditional, or established practices, or a project that is simply intended to carry out a task rather than transfer information or advance the state of knowledge, however worthwhile the project might be, is not a demonstration and will not be funded under this solicitation.

Projects must also meet relevant statutory authority or authorities. Proposed projects that cannot be funded under one of the relevant statutory authorities will not be considered for award under this announcement. The general types of projects eligible for funding under the statutory authorities are shown below.

1. Surveys, studies, investigations, demonstrations, and special purpose activities

- under *Section 103, Clean Air Act; Section 1442, Safe Drinking Water Act; Section 104(b)(3), Clean Water Act; and Section 1443, Safe Drinking Water Act*
2. Water quality management and/or source water protection planning
under *Section 104(b)(3), Clean Water Act*
 3. Innovative environmental management projects, studies, investigations
 4. Training and/or technical assistance on innovative techniques, tools, approaches,
or models
 5. Environmental results system and Environmental Management System planning and measurement investigations and demonstrations

See chart on pages 25-26 for activities that can be funded under each CFDA. Note that routine project implementation (tested or proven technologies or approaches, routine water quality or restoration measures, regulatory compliance or mitigation, land acquisition, nor recreational features or completion of work begun or designed under a prior assistance agreement) cannot be funded under this announcement.

In general, EPA funds may be used to pay for personnel, fringe benefits, travel expenses, outreach materials, supplies and equipment (with applicable limitations on equipment). Awardees cannot use federal funds to purchase land, vehicles or other capital equipment and cannot use federal funds to lobby or to complete work which was to have been done under a prior grant. Funding may be used to contract for services provided the recipient follows procurement and sub-award or sub-grant procedures contained in 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as applicable. Other assistance agreement funding cannot be used for required matching funds for this project nor can funding under this project be used for match for any other federal assistance.

C. Matching fund Requirements.

Matching funds are not required for projects to be funded under the CFDAs used in this announcement. But voluntary match and leveraging of funds is encouraged, and leveraging is one of the ranking criteria listed in Section V of this announcement.

D. Eligibility Requirements.

Threshold Eligibility Criteria: To be eligible for funding consideration under this announcement, applicant proposals must meet all of the following threshold criteria by the time of proposal submission. Failure to meet the following criteria by the time of proposal submission will result in the disqualification of the proposal for funding consideration. EPA will notify submitters of proposals deemed ineligible for funding consideration as a result of the threshold eligibility review within 15 calendar days of the ineligibility determination. The Threshold Eligibility Criteria for this solicitation are:

1. Proposals must substantially comply with the submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section IV of this announcement and not be for routine implementation projects.
2. Proposed projects must benefit human health or the environment or public health in at least one of states in the Region 4 geographic area which includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.
3. Region 4 Environmental Priorities: Proposed projects must focus on producing measurable environmental or health results in at least one of the following regional environmental priority areas. It is the Agency's policy that priority be given to approaches that prevent or reduce pollution, whenever feasible. Projects in the priority areas based on source reduction will receive priority over those based on abatement or control.
 - **Implementing Sustainable Agriculture Practices** – projects that contribute to implementing sustainable agriculture practices will focus on: 1) using animal waste to produce energy for use on-farm; 2) demonstrating economically-feasible technology to reduce the nitrogen or phosphorus content of the animal waste stream; 3) demonstrating technology that provides a closed-loop system and eliminates the dependence on liquid waste structures or sprayfields; 4) demonstrating technologies that reduce odors from animal agriculture operations; or 5) developing environmental management systems.
 - **Reducing Exposure to Ozone and Particulate Matter (PM)** – projects that promote or demonstrate innovative approaches to reducing ozone and PM in non-attainment areas. Funding is not available for plan development or implementation.
 - **Protecting Children's Health** – projects that build state, tribal, and local capacity to address children's environmental health concerns and help prevent and reduce environmental health and safety threats faced by children. Children's environmental health hazards may include: 1) air pollutants, both indoor and ambient; 2) toxic chemicals, such as lead, mercury, arsenic, organochlorines such as polychlorinated biphenyls, and dioxins; 3) endocrine disruptors; 4) environmental tobacco smoke; 5) ultraviolet radiation; 6) water pollution; 7) brominated flame retardants; 8) radon; 9) carbon monoxide; 10) asbestos; and 11) improperly managed school laboratory chemicals. Proposals must include at least one education, outreach and specific intervention activity that achieves measurable environmental and public health results. Funding is not available for waste management costs.

- **Improving Water Quality** – projects for improving water quality should focus on one or more of the following activities in Region 4 “Priority Watersheds:” 1) using innovative land use techniques, green development, and/or water quality trading; or 2) using established, inclusively-derived, scientifically credible restoration plans to complement on-going Regional efforts.
- **Promoting Environmental Excellence** – projects that focus on 1) identification and development of beyond-compliance strategies or approaches, including, but not limited to, construction and demolition debris reuse area, green building and sustainable building practices, and organic material reduction or reuse; 2) transfer of beyond-compliance strategies or approaches to facilities within the same or similar sectors; 3) creation of templates or start-up kits for sector-based environmental management systems; or 4) convening seminars or sector-based meetings focusing on improving environmental performance beyond compliance.
- **Encouraging Environmentally Sustainable Energy Use and Energy Conservation** – projects that promote or demonstrate alternative, non-traditional technologies, such as renewable energy and clean fuels that reduce residual wastes and provide cleaner sources of energy for economically and environmentally sustainable growth, or that expand the knowledge base of the economics and environmental sustainability of alternative technologies.

4. Required Strategic Approaches: Proposed projects must incorporate two or more of the following approaches, and the proposal must clearly explain how the approach is relevant to or integrated into the project.

- **Place- or sector-based Approach:** Projects use place- or sector-based approach to addressing regional environmental priority. The place can be urban or rural, a watershed or airshed, coasts or highlands, river corridors or transportation corridors or any other geographic unit/area. The issue and approach can be local (neighborhoods to watersheds) or state-wide, interstate, ecosystem-wide, or on a regional scale. The proposal should clearly define the place or sector to be addressed by the project.

- **Innovative Approach:** Projects use innovation and new approaches or tools to protect human health or protect or improve the environment. Demonstration projects that maximize resources, develop new tools, increase cost-effectiveness, incorporate voluntary action, and/or enhanced problem solving are essential to addressing the complex environmental the Southeast faces today. Projects should serve as models or approaches for similar problems in other geographic areas or sectors.

- **Multi-media Approach:** Projects that address contamination of more than one media (air, water, land). Multi-media is defined as a combination of environmental programs coordinated under one project or set of projects.
- **Collaborative Problem Solving and/or Leveraging Approach:** Participation of stakeholders and partners is preferable at all stages of project development and implementation. Proposal should discuss likelihood of project being adopted or continued after EPA funds are no longer available. Leveraging of additional funds is strongly encouraged but not required. Applicants may use their own funds or other resources for a voluntary match or cost share if the standards of 40 CFR 30.23 or 40 CFR 31.24, as applicable are met. Only eligible and allowable costs may be used for matches or cost shares. Other Federal grants may not be used as match or cost share without specific statutory authority (e.g. HUD's Community Development Block Grants.)
- **Stewardship Approach:** Project emphasis will be on encouraging and developing partnerships, market incentives, recognition and leadership awards, pollution prevention, environmental education, technical assistance, information, and collaborative problem solving resulting in environmental stewardship – where multiple sectors and groups in a community actively take responsibility to improve environmental quality and achieve sustainable results.

Section IV - Proposal Submission and Application Information.

A. Announcement Dates and Deadlines

1. Solicitation Announcement Posted: September 22, 2006
2. Proposal Submission Deadline: Complete proposals must be received by November 17, 2006 by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time via U.S. Postal Service or commercial delivery or electronic submission thru <http://www.grants.gov>.
3. Estimated Date for Notification of Award Selection or Non-Selection: April 7, 2007 and Estimated Date for Final Awards: June 15, 2007.

B. Submission Requirements.

1. Submission Options

Please note that you may choose to apply under this announcement in one of two ways. If you wish to apply with a hard copy submission, please follow the instructions in 1a below. If you wish to apply electronically via Grants.gov, please follow the appropriate instructions under “Electronic Submission” in Section 1b below. EPA encourages applicants to submit proposal materials electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>.

a. Hard Copy

The address for receipt of hard copy proposals and/or Letters of Commitment and/or Support is:

Betty Winter, RGI Coordinator
Environmental Protection Agency Region 4
Mail Room – 9th Floor Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Submit one copy of the proposal by U.S. Postal Service or commercial delivery service to the address shown in Section a above. Use 8 ½ inch by 11 inch paper with 12 point font and minimum vertical and horizontal one inch margins printed double- or single-sided. Pages should be numbered in order starting with the cover page and continuing through the Summary, Project Description, Schedule, and Budget.

b. Electronic Submission

If you wish to apply electronically via Grants.gov, the electronic submission of your proposal must be made by an official representative of your institution who is registered with Grants.gov and authorized to sign applications for Federal assistance. For more information, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on “Get Registered” on the left side of the page. Note that the registration process may take a week or longer to complete. If your organization is not currently registered with Grants.gov, please encourage your office to designate an AOR and ask that individual to begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To begin the proposal submittal process under this announcement, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Apply for Grants” tab on the left side of the page. Then click on “Apply Step 1: Download a Grant Application Package and Instructions” to download the PureEdge viewer and obtain the application package and instructions for submitting your proposal under this announcement using grants.gov. You may retrieve the application package and instructions by entering the Funding Opportunity Number, EPA-R4-OPM-06-02, in the space provided. Then complete and submit the application package as indicated. You may also be able to access the application package by clicking on the button “How To Apply” at the top right of the synopsis page for this announcement on <http://www.grants.gov> (to find the synopsis page, go to <http://www.grants.gov>

and click on the “Find Grant Opportunities” button on the left side of the page and then go to Search Opportunities and use the Browse by Agency feature to go to EPA opportunities). Proposal materials submitted through grants.gov will be time/date stamped electronically.

Please be sure to view the additional instructions for applying electronically under this announcement through use of www.grants.gov that are available for download on Grants.gov and in Attachment A to this announcement. If you have technical difficulties while applying electronically, please refer to <http://www.grants.gov/help/help.jsp>.

2. Proposal Format and Content Requirements.

a. Cover Page/Signature

PROJECT TITLE: Descriptive Title (recommended ten words or less)

PROJECT SUMMARY: Short paragraph on primary project goal, strategy to accomplish the goal, and primary project results (2-5 sentences)

PROJECT FOCUS:

1. State or States (Section III D 2)
2. Regional Environmental Priority (Section III D 3)
3. Strategic Approach (Section III D 4)

TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING:

1. Federal Funds Requested
2. Recipient Match (cash or in-kind) and/or
3. Leveraged Funds (cash or in-kind)

ORGANIZATION: Name, Address, Type of Organization (Section III A), Tax Status and ID (if applicable), Project Officer, Phone and Fax Numbers, and e-mail address

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: (original or electronic signature by the submitter’s Executive Director or equivalent or designee)

I certify that all information included in this proposal is true and accurate.

Signature of Executive Director

Date

Typed or Printed Name and Title

b. Narrative -- Applicants must address the following in the proposal narrative and must include responses to the evaluation criteria in section V. (10 page maximum including schedule and budget).

- (1) Project Description – include project goals and performance plan
 - (a) need for project
 - (b) environmental issue(s) to be addressed
 - (c) explanation of at least one regional priority to be addressed by the proposed project as required in Section III D 3 above
 - (d) explanation of how at least two approaches required in III D 4 above will be used in accomplishing project goals
 - (e) the transferability of the approach to other similar situations
 - (f) clear project goals and/or objectives, activities, and strategies to meet each goal and/or objective
 - (g) environmental or health results to be achieved

NOTE: Children's health proposals as required in III D 5 above must include an explanation of at least one education, outreach, and specific intervention activity to achieve environmental or health results

- (2) Capability Documentation
 - (a) Environmental Results Past Performance: Submit a list of federally funded assistance agreements that your organization performed within the last three years (no more than 5, and preferably EPA agreements), and describe how you documented and/or reported on whether you were making progress towards achieving the expected results (e.g., outputs and outcomes) under those agreements. If you were not making progress, please indicate whether, and how, you documented why not. In evaluating applicants under this factor in Section V, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current and prior Federal agency grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). If your organization does not have any relevant or available environmental results past performance information, please indicate this in the proposal and the proposal will receive a neutral score for this factor under Section V.
 - (b) Programmatic Capability: Submit a list of federally funded assistance agreements similar in size, scope and relevance to the proposed project that your organization performed within the last three years (no more than five, and preferably EPA agreements) and describe (i) whether, and how, you were able to successfully complete and manage those agreements and (ii) your history of meeting the reporting requirements under those agreements including submitting acceptable final technical reports. In evaluating applicants under these factors in Section V, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current and prior Federal agency grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant). If your organization does not have any relevant or available past performance or

reporting information, please indicate this in the proposal and the proposal will receive a neutral score for these factors under Section V.

(c) In addition, provide information on your organizational experience and plan for timely and successfully achieving the objectives of the proposed project, and your staff expertise/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the proposed project.

(3) Performance Evaluation – Each proposal must include an explanation of the evaluation methodology to be used to track and measure the effectiveness of the project and the environmental results to be achieved by the project. The methodology should include quantitative and qualitative measures, such as survey results, behavior change, environmental data, observation, or other methods for evaluating how well the activities conducted met the project objectives.

- (4) Leveraging -- Leveraging is strongly encouraged but is not required. Discuss (i) how the applicant will coordinate the use of EPA funding with other Federal and/or non-Federal funding sources to leverage additional resources, and/or (ii) that EPA funding will compliment activities relevant to the proposed project to be carried out by the applicant with other sources of funds or resources (iii) where appropriate, EPA will also consider the likelihood of the project being implemented or continuing after EPA funds are no longer available.

*Note: Leveraging of additional funds is **strongly** encouraged but not required. Applicants may use their own funds or other resources for a voluntary match or cost share if the standards of 40 CFR 30.23 or 40 CFR 31.24, as applicable are met. Only eligible and allowable costs may be used for matches or cost shares. Other Federal grants may not be used as match or cost share without specific statutory authority (e.g. HUD's Community Development Block Grants.)*

- (5) Collaborative and/or Involvement Efforts -- Discuss (a) collaborative efforts, including the involvement of appropriate collaborators and the affected community or sectors to achieve desired environmental outcomes. Submitters may provide letters of support from collaborators or the affected community or sectors. (b) if letters of support are submitted by mail, send on letter-head with original signatures. Submit by U.S. mail or commercial delivery service to the address in Section IV.A.1 above. If letters are submitted electronically, submitters should use Adobe Acrobat® (pdf) showing original signature.

PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET TABLE – REQUIRED				
Budget Category	Federal Funds Requested	Matching Funds (non-Federal funds, if any)	Total Funds	Explanation of Purchase and/or Accomplishment
Salaries and Benefits				
Travel				
Equipment (over \$5000)				
Supplies and Materials				
Contractual Services				
Other (e.g. printing or distribution)				
Indirect Cost Rate (___%)				
TOTALS	\$	\$	\$	

Note: Foreign travel, land, construction, and vehicle purchases are not allowable activities for this solicitation.

c. **Schedule:** List of milestones to accomplish goal(s) with start and complete dates, and major tasks, outputs, deliverables, and Progress Reports (semi-annual and project end (can use actual dates or just Month 1, 2, 3 and activity))

d. **Budget** – Include the budget table shown on page 18 above to explain how Federal funds will be used effectively to achieve goals and environmental outcomes with sufficient detail on appropriateness of expenses to project goals.

C. Application Package (for successful proposals moving forward to the next level of consideration).

Proposals selected for award will require submission of a complete application package, which is available on line at www.grants.gov or for downloading from EPA Region 4's Grants website at http://www.epa.gov/region4/grants/application_forms_and_attachments.htm or may be submitted electronically through www.grants.gov. Successful applicants who submitted proposals via www.grants.gov and already submitted the SF 424 must submit another SF 424 along with all other required forms and the work plan. EPA Region 4 will also provide instructions for hardcopy or electronic submission to applicants selected for this next level of consideration. The tentative date for receipt of complete application packages from applicants whose proposals are selected for the next level or review will be approximately **March 15, 2007**. See Section VII for Agency Contact for further information on application submissions.

D. Additional Submission Information

Page Limitations

Note that proposal pages in excess of the page limitations expressed above in Section A will not be reviewed and considered in proposal evaluation and selection.

Multiple Proposals from a Single Applicant

Please note that submitters may submit more than one proposal under this announcement.

Confidential Business Information

In accordance with 40 CFR 2.203, applicants may claim all or a portion of a proposal/application as confidential business information by clearly marking them. EPA will evaluate confidentiality claims in accordance with 40 CFR Part 2. If no claim of confidentiality is made, EPA is not required to make the inquiry to the applicant otherwise required by 40 CFR 2.204(c)(2) prior to disclosure.

Section V - Proposal Review Information.

A. Evaluation Criteria.

EPA Region 4 staff will evaluate each eligible proposal (determined by the threshold eligibility review described in Section III D) according to the criteria set forth below. Submitters should

directly and explicitly address these criteria as part of the proposal submittal. Each proposal will be rated under a points system, with a total of 100 points possible.

<u>Proposal Criteria</u>	<u>Weight</u>
<p>1. <u>Project Description</u></p> <p>The extent to which the proposal contains a clear explanation of location, need for the project, environmental issue(s), the regional priority or priorities to be addressed; the strategic approaches to be used; the transferability of the approach to other similar situations; the goals and objectives, activities, and/or methods to meet the goals; and the results to be achieved</p>	20 points
<p>2. <u>Capability</u></p> <p><i>Environmental Results Past Performance:</i> Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they adequately documented and/or reported on their progress towards achieving the expected results (e.g., outcomes and outputs) under Federal agency assistance agreements performed within the last three years, and if such progress was not being made whether the applicant adequately documented and/or reported why not. Note: In evaluating applicants under this factor, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources including agency files and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information supplied by the applicant). Applicants with no relevant or available past performance reporting history will receive a neutral score for this factor.</p> <p><i>Programmatic Capability:</i> Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project taking into account the following factors: (i) its past performance in successfully completing and managing federally funded assistance agreements similar in size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project performed within the last 3 years, (ii) its history of meeting reporting requirements under federally funded assistance agreements similar in size, scope, and relevance to the proposed project performed within the last 3 years and submitting acceptable final technical reports under those agreements, (iii) its organizational experience and plan for timely and successfully achieving the objectives of the proposed project, and (iv) its staff expertise/qualifications, staff knowledge, and resources or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the proposed project.</p> <p><i>Note: In evaluating applicants under this criterion, the Agency will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources including agency files and prior/current grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information supplied by the applicant).</i></p>	15 points

Applicants with no relevant or available past performance or reporting history (items i and ii above), will receive a neutral score for those elements of this criterion.

<u>Proposal Criteria</u>	<u>Weight</u>
3. <u>Performance Evaluation</u> The extent to which the proposal describes a clear method and plan for measuring progress toward achieving expected project outputs and environmental results. The method and plan will be evaluated on the effectiveness for tracking and measuring progress toward achieving expected outputs and environmental results.	15 points
4. <u>Leveraging</u> The extent to which the proposal explains (i) how the applicant will coordinate the use of EPA funding with other Federal and/or non-Federal funding sources to leverage additional resources, and/or (ii) that EPA funding will compliment activities relevant to the proposed project(s) carried out by the applicant with other sources of funds or resources (iii) where appropriate, EPA will also consider the likelihood of the project being implemented or continuing after EPA funds are no longer available.	10 points
<i>Note: Leveraging of additional funds is <u>strongly</u> encouraged but not required. Applicants may use their own funds or other resources for a voluntary match or cost share if the standards of 40 CFR 30.23 or 40 CFR 31.24, as applicable are met. Only eligible and allowable costs may be used for matches or cost shares. Other Federal grants may not be used as match or cost share without specific statutory authority (e.g. HUD's Community Development Block Grants.)</i>	
5. <u>Collaborative and Involvement Efforts</u> The extent to which the project demonstrates efforts to involve relevant stakeholders or collaborators, and if stakeholders are involved, the extent to which they commit to specific support and participation	10 points
6. <u>Schedule, Outputs, and Outcomes</u> The extent to which the proposal clearly defines milestones and schedule for achieving measurable outputs and outcomes specified in the project description	15 points
7. <u>Budget</u> The extent to which the proposal explains how federal funds will be used effectively to achieve goals and environmental	15 points

outcomes with sufficient detail on appropriateness of expenses

to project goals. For small grants, lower indirect costs are encouraged for increased project accomplishments.

Total Evaluation Points 100 points

B. Review and Selection Process.

All proposals will first be reviewed for eligibility purposes based on the threshold criteria listed in Section III of the announcement. Those proposals deemed eligible based on the Section III factors will then be evaluated and ranked based on the proposal evaluation criteria explained in Section V A above. The RGI Coordinator will make the threshold eligibility determination.

Proposals deemed eligible based on the Section III threshold factors will then be evaluated by an EPA Region 4 review team consisting of managers and/or staff from a cross- section of EPA programs (air, water, waste, compliance, Tribal/State partnerships). Proposals will be evaluated based on each applicant's ability to meet the stated evaluation criteria in Section V A of this announcement. Based on the results of the evaluation process, the review team will make funding recommendations to the Approving Official on the proposed projects, and the Approving Official will make the final selection decisions on award amounts and the number of awards. The Approval Official will make final selection decisions based on the scores and rankings the applicants received in response to the criteria in Section V.A, the review panel recommendations, and may also take into account other factors such as geographical diversity, project diversity, and programmatic diversity in making final selection decisions. The selection process is expected to be competitive, and all quality proposals may not be funded.

Reviewers will be required to sign a disclosure of conflict of interest form, and those with any un-resolved conflicts will not be permitted to serve as reviewers.

The EPA Region 4 review team and the RGI/EPP Coordinator will make the final determination regarding statutory authority and the appropriate CFDA under which assistance agreements will be made for the selected projects.

Section VI - Award Administration Information.

A. Award Notices.

1. EPA Region 4 anticipates that the proposal selection process may take from 120 to 180 days. The Agency will then notify successful proposal submitters to submit full applications and work plans. That notification is not an authorization to begin work on the project. The award process can take up to 90 days from the date of submission of an approved application. Successful applicants should not begin work on projects until the final grant is awarded, signed by applicants, and returned to the Agency because pre-award costs will not be approved. The award

notice signed by the EPA Regional Administrator is the only authorizing document and will be provided to the recipient through postal mail.

2. EPA anticipates notice to those deemed ineligible will be made within 15 days of the determination of ineligibility; notice to those not selected, within 15 days of final selection. The notification will be sent to the original signer of the proposal.
3. The EPA Grant Award Officer is the only official that can bind the Agency to the expenditure of funds for selected projects resulting from this announcement.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements.

1. Projects selected for funding under this solicitation will require submission of detailed EPA Assistance Agreement Applications (Standard Form 424) before funding can be awarded.
2. A listing and description of general EPA Regulations applicable to the award of assistance agreements may be viewed at:
http://www.epa.gov/ogd/AppKit/applicable_epa_regulations_and_description.htm
3. **Intergovernmental Review.** All applications for this funding opportunity are subject to Executive Order (EO) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." Applicants must contact the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to find out how to comply with the State's process for Intergovernmental Review. Names and addresses of SPOCs in each state are listed in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) home page at www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html.
4. **Dun and Bradstreet Number.** Successful applicants are required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for federal assistance. Applicants can receive a DUNS number, at no cost, by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711, or visiting the D&B website at: www.dnb.com.
5. **Applicable OMB Circulars.** Assistance agreements with institutions of higher education are subject to 40 CFR Parts 30 and 2 CFR Part 220 (formerly OMB Circular A-21). Assistance agreements with other non-profit organizations must comply with 40 CFR Part 30 and 2 CFR Part 230 (formerly A-122).
6. **Pre-Award Administrative Capability Review.** Non-profit applicants that are recommended for funding under this announcement are subject to pre-award administrative capability reviews consistent with Section 8b, 8c, and 9d of EPA Order 5700.8, Policy on Assessing Capabilities of Non-Profit Applicants for Managing Assistance Awards (www.epa.gov/ogd/grants/award/5700_8.pdf).

6. Assistance agreements with states, Tribes, and local governments must comply with 40 CFR Parts 31 and 35 and 2 CFR Part 225 (formerly OMB Circular A-87).
7. **Programmatic terms and conditions** will be negotiated with selected recipients.

C. Reporting Requirements.

Semi-annual progress reports and a detailed final report will be required. Reports summarizing technical progress, planned activities for the next period and summary of expenditures are required. Grantees must also submit a compact disc (CD) containing the final report in Microsoft Word® and Adobe Acrobat® (pdf) formats and copies of all education, outreach or training materials produced under this grant. The final report and CD shall be submitted within 90 calendar days of the completion of the period of performance.

While the Agency will negotiate precise terms and conditions relating to substantial involvement as part of the award process, EPA expects to closely monitor the successful applicant(s) performance. EPA will not select employees or contractors employed by the recipient(s) and the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient(s).

D. Disputes.

Assistance agreement competition-related disputes will be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures published in 70 FR (Federal Register) 3629, 3630 (January 26, 2005) which can be found at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-1371.htm>. The point of contact for requesting copies of the dispute procedures is the EPA Region 4 contact identified in Section VII of this announcement.

Section VII - Agency Contact.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Betty Winter, Regional Geographic Initiative (RGI) Coordinator, EPA Region 4, 61 Forsyth ST, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303, Phone 1-800-241-1754 or 404-562-8279, Fax 404-562-8269, e-mail – winter.betty@epa.gov , TTY 404-562-8339.

Section VIII - Other Information.

Data Access and Information Release: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-110 provides public access to research data through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) under some circumstances. Data that are (1) first produced in a project that is supported in whole or in part with Federal funds and (2) cited publicly and officially by a Federal agency in support of an action that has the force and effect of law (i.e., a regulation) may be accessed through FOIA. If such data are requested by the public, the EPA must ask for it, and the grantee must submit it, in accordance with A-110 and EPA regulations at 40 C.F.R. 30.36.

CHART: INFORMATION ON RELEVANT CODES OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE AND STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

CFDA #	Statutory Authority	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects/Activities	Match Requirement	Strategic Goal
66.034	Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 103	State, territories, Tribes, and possessions, local governments, possessions including the District of Columbia and international organizations, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, and other public or private non-profit institutions	Surveys, studies, investigations, demonstrations & special purpose activities	Optional	Goal 1.1 Healthier Outdoor Air Goal 4.1.1 & 4.1.3 Reduce Pesticide, Chemical, and Biological Risk Goal 4.3.1 Restore and Protect Ecosystems Goal 5.1 Compliance Assistance Goal 5-2 Pollution Prevention and Innovation
66.424	Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Section 1442	State, territories, Indian Tribes and possessions, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, and public or private non-profit institutions and individuals [IRS 501(c)(3) not 501(c)(4)]	Studies, pilots, and demonstrations associated with source water and drinking water and to develop and expand capabilities to carry out the purposes of the act	Optional	Goal 2.1.1 Protect Drinking Water Goal 2.2 Protect Water Quality Goal 4.1.1 & 4.1.3 Reduce Pesticide, Chemical, and Biological Risk Goal 5.1 Compliance Assistance Goal 5-2 Pollution Prevention and Innovation
66.436	Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 104(b) (3)	State, territories, Indian Tribes, Local governments, possessions of the US, including the District of Columbia and intertribal consortia, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, public or private non-profit institutions and individuals	Water quality and watershed management surveys, studies, and investigations	Optional	Goal 2.2 Protect Water Quality Goal 2.2.1 Improve Water Quality on a Watershed Management Basis Goal 4.1.1 & 4.1.3 Reduce Pesticide, Chemical, and Biological Risk Goal 4.3.1 Restore and Protect Ecosystems Goal 5.1 Compliance Assistance Goal 5-2 Pollution Prevention and Innovation

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) can be viewed at <http://www.cfda.gov> .
The EPA 2003-2008 Strategic Plan can be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/ocfopage/plan/2003sp.pdf> .

CFDA #	Statutory Authority	Eligible Applicants	Eligible Projects/Activities	Match Requirement	Strategic Goal
66.475	Gulf of Mexico Program -- CWA Section 104(b)(3)	State and local governments, interstate agencies, Tribes, colleges and universities, other public or nonprofit organizations	Developing, implementing, and demonstrating innovative approaches relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction, and elimination of pollution & expanding & strengthening cooperative efforts to restore & protect the health & productivity	Optional	Goal 2.1 Protect Drinking Water Goal 2.2.1 Improve Water Quality on a Watershed Basis Goal 4.1.1 & 4.1.3 Reduce Pesticide, Chemical, and Bio. Risk Goal 4.3.1 Restore and Protect Ecosystems Goal 5-2 Pollution Prevention and Innovation
66.609	Children's Environmental Health and Aging Initiative -- CWA Section 104; Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Section 20,; CAA Section 103; Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) Section 8001; SDWA Section 1442; Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 10, Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, Section 203; and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Sect. 311	States or state agencies, territories, Indian Tribes, possessions, public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, laboratories, other public and private nonprofit organizations	Investigations, studies, outreach, training, surveys, experiments, and demonstrations to establish and enhance ability to reduce risks to the health of children or the aging population including efforts to create healthy school environments and supporting efforts to implement a national agenda for the Environment and Aging	Optional	Objectives 1.1 Healthy Outdoor Air Goal 2.1 Protect Drinking Water Goal 3.1.1 Reduce Waste Generation Goal 3.2.2 Reuse Contaminated Land Goal 4.1.1 & 4.1.3 Reduce Pesticide, Chemical, and Bio. Risk Goal 5.2 Pollution Prevention and Innovation

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) can be viewed at <http://www.cfda.gov> .

The EPA 2003-2008 Strategic Plan can be viewed at <http://www.epa.gov/ocfopage/plan/2003sp.pdf> .

Grants.gov Proposal Instructions For Announcement Number EPA-R4-OPM-06-02

General Submittal Instructions

The electronic submission of your application must be made by an official representative of your institution who is registered with Grants.gov and is authorized to sign applications for Federal assistance. For more information, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on “Get Registered” on the left side of the page. *Note that the registration process may take a week or longer to complete.* If your organization is not currently registered with Grants.gov, please encourage your office to designate an AOR and ask that individual to begin the registration process as soon as possible.

To begin the application process under this grant announcement, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Apply for Grants” tab on the left side of the page. Then click on “Apply Step 1: Download a Grant Application Package and Instructions” to download the PureEdge viewer and obtain the application package for the announcement.. To download the PureEdge viewer click on the “PureEdge Viewer” link. Once you have downloaded the viewer, you may retrieve the application package by entering the Funding Opportunity Number, EPA-R4-OPM-06-02, in the appropriate field. You may also be able to access the application package by clicking on the button “How To Apply” at the top right of the synopsis page for this announcement on <http://www.grants.gov> (to find the synopsis page, go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Find Grant Opportunities” button on the left side of the page and then go to Search Opportunities and use the Browse by Agency feature to find EPA opportunities).

Proposal Submission Deadline: Your organization’s AOR must submit your complete application electronically to EPA through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) no later than September 30, 2006.

Please submit *all* of the proposal/application materials described below. To view the full funding announcement, go to <http://www.epa.gov/region4/financial/grants.html>, or go to <http://www.grants.gov> and click on “Find Grant Opportunities” on the left side of the page and then click on Search Opportunities/Browse by Agency and select Environmental Protection Agency.

Proposal/Application Materials

The following forms and documents are required to be submitted under this announcement:

- I. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- II. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)

III. Narrative Proposal/Work Plan/Project Proposal, Letters of Support and/or Commitment. For Proposal Requirements see **Section IV B 2** of the Regional Environmental Priorities.

The proposal package *must* include all of the following materials:

I. Standard Form (SF) 424, Application for Federal Assistance

Complete the form. There are no attachments. Please be sure to include organization fax number and email address in Block 5 of the Standard Form SF 424.

Please note that the organizational Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number must be included on the SF-424. Organizations may obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711.

II. Standard Form SF 424A – Budget Information:

Complete the form. There are no attachments.

The total amount of federal funding requested for the project period should be shown on line 5(e) and on line 6(k) of SF-424A. If indirect costs are included, the amount of indirect costs should be entered on line 6(j). The indirect cost rate (i.e., a percentage), the base (e.g., personnel costs and fringe benefits), and the amount should also be indicated on line 22.

III. Narrative Proposal

The document should be readable in PDF or MS Word for Windows and consolidated into a single file. The format should be for standard 8 ½ inch by 11 inch paper with 12 point font and minimum vertical and horizontal one inch margins printed double- or single-sided. Pages should be numbered in order starting with the cover page and continuing through the Summary, Project Description, Schedule, and Budget. See Section 4 B of the announcement (at www.grants.gov or <http://www.epa.gov/region4/financial/grants.html>) for specific content requirements. Letters of Support and/or Commitment can be attached in a separate attachment or combined with the proposal.

Application Preparation and Submission Instructions

Documents I through III listed under Application Materials above should appear in the “Mandatory Documents” box on the Grants.gov Grant Application Package page.

For documents I and II, click on the appropriate form and then click “Open Form” below the box. The fields that must be completed will be highlighted in yellow. Optional fields and completed fields will be displayed in white. If you enter an invalid response or incomplete information in a field, you will receive an error message. When you have finished filling out each form, click “Save.” When you return to the electronic Grant Application Package page, click on the form you just completed, and then click on the box that says, “Move Form to

Submission List.” This action will move the document over to the box that says, “Mandatory Completed Documents for Submission.”

For document III, you will need to attach electronic files. Prepare your narrative proposal as described above in Section.....and save the document to your computer as an MS Word, PDF file. When you are ready to attach your proposal to the application package, click on “Project Narrative Attachment Form,” and open the form. Click “Add Mandatory Project Narrative File,” and then attach your proposal (previously saved to your computer) using the browse window that appears. You may then click “View Mandatory Project Narrative File” to view it. Enter a brief descriptive title of your project in the space beside “Mandatory Project Narrative File Filename;” the filename should be no more than 40 characters long. If there other attachments that you would like to submit to accompany your proposal, you may click “Add Optional Project Narrative File” and proceed as before. When you have finished attaching the necessary documents, click “Close Form.” When you return to the “Grant Application Package” page, select the “Project Narrative Attachment Form” and click “Move Form to Submission List.” The form should now appear in the box that says, “Mandatory Completed Documents for Submission.”

Once you have finished filling out all of the forms/attachments and they appear in one of the “Completed Documents for Submission” boxes, click the “Save” button that appears at the top of the Web page. It is suggested that you save the document a second time, using a different name, since this will make it easier to submit an amended package later if necessary. Please use the following format when saving your file: “Applicant Name – FY06 – Assoc Prog Supp – 1st Submission” or “Applicant Name – FY 06 Assoc Prog Supp – Back-up Submission.” If it becomes necessary to submit an amended package at a later date, then the name of the 2nd submission should be changed to “Applicant Name – FY06 Assoc Prog Supp – 2nd Submission.”

Once your application package has been completed and saved, send it to your AOR for submission to U.S. EPA through Grants.gov. Please advise your AOR to close all other software programs before attempting to submit the application package through Grants.gov.

In the “Application Filing Name” box, your AOR should enter your organization’s name (abbreviate where possible), the fiscal year (e.g., FY06), and the grant category (e.g., Assoc Prog Supp). The filing name should not exceed 40 characters. From the “Grant Application Package” page, your AOR may submit the application package by clicking the “Submit” button that appears at the top of the page. The AOR will then be asked to verify the agency and funding opportunity number for which the application package is being submitted. If problems are encountered during the submission process, the AOR should reboot his/her computer before trying to submit the application package again. [It may be necessary to turn off the computer (not just restart it) before attempting to submit the package again.] If the AOR continues to experience submission problems, he/she may contact Grants.gov for assistance by phone at 1-800-518-4726 or email at <http://www.grants.gov/help/help.jsp> or contact Betty Winter at EPA Region 4, (404) 562-8279 or winter.betty@epa.gov. Application packages submitted thru www.grants.gov will be time/date stamped electronically.

If you have not received a confirmation of receipt from EPA (*not from grants.gov*) within 30 days of the application deadline, please contact Betty Winter, EPA Region 4 Regional Geographic Initiative Coordinator, at winter.betty@epa.gov or (404) 562-8279. Failure to do so may result in your application not being reviewed.